

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Lakeside Press Building

AND/OR COMMON

731 South Plymouth Court Building

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

731 South Plymouth Court

CITY, TOWN

Chicago

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7th

VICINITY OF

STATE

Illinois

CODE

17

COUNTY

Cook

CODE

31

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Triangle Publications, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

731 South Plymouth Court

CITY, TOWN

Chicago

VICINITY OF

STATE

Illinois

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Cook County Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

County Building, 118 North Clark Street

CITY, TOWN

Chicago

STATE

Illinois

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic American Building Survey

DATE

1963

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 6 PAGE 1

Commission on Chicago Historical and Architectural Landmarks  
1972 local  
CCHAL, 320 North LaSalle Street  
Chicago, Illinois

Chicago's Landmarks Structures: An Inventory: II.  
Landmarks Preservation Council and Service  
1975 local  
407 South Dearborn  
Chicago, Illinois

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building survives virtually unaltered from its original condition.

The seven story facade of brick and cast iron with limestone detail and decoration has eight bays along Plymouth Court and three on Polk Street. The fenestration and ornament on the front facade is in many ways expressive of the workings of the original owner and of the printing industry.

The first two floors, which are the most elaborately decorated, express their original use: the first floor was the show room, the second the editorial offices. These two floors of brick are dressed with limestone and have limestone quoins. The entrance receives special attention; it has an elaborate structure focused on a lintel supported by free standing limestone piers. Originally there were separate doors, one on either side of the entrance porch, giving access to two different businesses. One door has been blocked in, possibly during the years that Lakeside Press still occupied the building.

The fourth through sixth stories are the production floors, articulated by bold piers of brick covering the metal frame. Set back from these piers is a curtain wall with large double hung windows with iron spandrels at each floor level. These spandrels provide a striking surface contrast to the masonry, especially by displaying the large bolts which hold them in place. At the top of each bay the seventh floor fenestration changes to contrasting thermal windows framed by three courses of brick laid in a radiating pattern. Textured brickwork is used on this floor to define the quoins at the corners and form a projecting cornice that remains intact. This cornice conceals the eighth story penthouse offices. The important offices of this family run business were housed in the seventh and eighth stories, as the forms on the facade reveal.

A limestone coat of arms at the top of each pier and over the main entrance is a relief of an Indian head superimposed on a representation of Fort Dearborn, the mark of the Lakeside Press. Other printers' marks are used in decorative medallions elsewhere on the building.

# **B** SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES	1897-1901	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building demonstrates the growth of an important Chicago family owned industry. The company was anticipating future growth when it commissioned a unified design for a building that could be built in two stages. The four southern bays were completed in 1897, the four northern ones in 1901. It may have been the growth of the Montgomery Ward Company Catalogue that prompted Lakeside Press to anticipate its own growth. While printing catalogues during the 1890's Lakeside began producing hard bound books. Business went well and within five years after the press moved to this building it occupied the entire, expanded building. By 1910 the company had grown to such a degree that it requested Shaw to begin a design for a new, larger plant, but this later building was not executed by Shaw who had died in the year it was begun. The new building now contains the Lakeside-Donnelley offices.

The building's architect, Howard Van Doren Shaw (1868-1926), is best known for residential architecture executed for wealthy clients associated, as he was, with Ivy League colleges. His designs show the influence of English designers such as William Morris, Sir Edwin Lutyens, and C.F.A. Voysey. These he assimilated into an architecture noted for its propriety, as for example at the rectory of Chicago's Fourth Presbyterian Church (1925).

The Lakeside Press Building, Shaw's first commercial design, is a fine example of his having learned from the Chicago style of commercial buildings. Here he reveals the influence of John W. Root's heavy masonry forms which are imaginatively integrated with the clear structural design that Root allowed to be expressed only on the rear facades of such prestigious office buildings as Chicago's Rookery (1886). Shaw has used this combination of masonry construction and iron technology to express the uses of the various floors and to take advantage of advances in building technology. But he did not abandon the picturesque effects found in his other designs. The result is a striking and unique combination of forms that give dignity to a printing plant and its headquarter offices.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Randall, Frank A. History of the Development of Building Construction in Chicago, Urbana, 1949.  
 Condit, Carl. Chicago 1910-1929, Chicago, 1973.  
 Eaton, Leonard K. Frank Lloyd Wright and Howard Van Doren Shaw: Two Chicago Architects and Their Clients, Cambridge, U.S.A., 1969.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	4,4,7,8,6,0	4,6,3,5,6,0,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Carroll William Westfall

ORGANIZATION

Landmarks Preservation Council

DATE

November 22, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

407 South Dearborn

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chicago

STATE

Illinois

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Anthony J. Dean*

TITLE

*Director*

DATE

*1-9-76*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER